

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A collapsible lampshade, comprising:
 - an upper ring;
 - a lower ring;
 - a number of removable, generally U-shaped supports having a flattened apex with a vertical notch and two legs with ends;
 - a cover attached to said upper and lower rings;
 - a mounting hub connected to said upper ring by struts, each strut having a generally horizontal portion and a generally vertical portion;
 - a plurality of receptacles attached to said lower ring wherein the apex of each of said generally U-shaped supports is pressed against said upper ring and each said vertical notch is aligned with said generally vertical portion of one of said struts; and
 - each of said ends of said generally U-shaped supports is inserted into one of said receptacles.
2. The collapsible lampshade of claim 1, wherein:
 - said supports are press fit between said rings to space apart said rings, maintaining tension on said cover which maintains said supports in position between said rings.
3. The collapsible lampshade of claim 2, wherein:

said lampshade collapses when said supports are removed from between said rings, relieving said tension on said cover and allowing said shade to collapse to a flat configuration.

4. The collapsible lampshade of claim 1, wherein:

the apex of each U-shaped support is curved to match the curve of said upper ring.

5. A collapsible lampshade, comprising:

an upper ring;

a lower ring;

a number of removable, generally trapezoidal shaped supports; and

a mounting hub connected to said upper ring by struts, each strut having a generally horizontal portion and a generally vertical portion; wherein

a first end of each of said generally trapezoidal shaped supports has a flattened portion with a vertical notch and is pressed against said upper ring with said notch aligned with said vertical portion of one of said struts;

the opposite end of each of said generally trapezoidal supports is pressed against the lower ring.

6. The collapsible lampshade of claim 5, wherein:

the other two side of each of said supports extend between and separate said upper and lower rings.

7. The collapsible lampshade of claim 6, wherein:

 said supports are press fit between said rings to space apart said rings, maintaining tension on said cover which maintains said supports in position between said rings.

8. The collapsible lampshade of claim 7, wherein:

 said lampshade collapses when said supports are removed from between said rings, relieving said tension on said cover and allowing said shade to collapse to a flat configuration.

9. The collapsible lampshade of claim 5, wherein:

 said first end of each support is curved to match the curve of said upper ring; and
 said opposite end is curved to match the curve of said lower ring.

10. A collapsible lampshade frame, comprising:

 an upper ring;

 a lower ring;

 a number of U-shaped supports movably connected to said upper ring, each support having an apex with an aperture in said apex;

 a mounting hub connected to said support ring by struts; each of said struts extending through an aperture in one of said supports;

 wherein said supports are movable along said struts and rotatable into position extending between and separating said upper and lower rings.